

Patricia Wormington .txt  
From: Pat Wormington [mailto:airecrew@netzero.net]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 08, 2008 11:01 AM Pacific Standard Time  
To: Brown, Delores  
Subject: Comments: Monterey Amendments Draft EIR

Patricia A. Wormington  
7370 County Road A23  
Beckwourth, CA 96129  
January 4, 2008

Department of Water Resources  
901 P Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Comments: Monterey Amendments Draft EIR

Dear Department of Water Resources;

I am writing this letter in the largest valley in the Sierra, Sierra Valley, which is also said to be the largest sub-alpine valley on the North American Continent.

It has been brought to my attention that your agency intends to adopt a water policy that has no bearing on the current state of our water supply in California. An ill conceived plan made behind closed doors in 1994 that will serve to enrich a few with California taxpayers footing the bill. We have had enough of these schemes over the last few years. The Savings and Loan debacle that enriched the few who bailed out early with the loot, at our expense. Then the Enron power scheme that drained the pockets of Californian's. Then the Mortgage fiasco. And now DWR thinks Californian's will roll over for another scheme, selling off the Kern Water Bank and the selling off and privatization of Municipal Water Supplies. Household budgets are already stretched thin with gas prices pushing up the price of everything we buy.

Our Government is supposed to be for the "Common Good." Not the enrichment of a few. Greed has Ruled the Day for too long!

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Basing water policy on "paper water" instead of the real lack of water in California is insane. California's water policy should be based on real water, or the lack of it. Not a plan conceived in 1994, but a plan based on current water availability, our best science, and the Global Warming factor in 2008 and beyond. The governor's plan to build more dams and wipe out the fishery, the food chain of many species, is not realistic either. The rehabilitation of meadows and valleys to store as much water as possible underground is cheaper and conserves our precious water without the evaporation factor. Conservation and population control is also a must for this beautiful State if wildlife is to survive.

I happen to know first hand about the lack of snow pack in the Sierra, 2007. I was above 13,000 feet on the John Muir Trail in July. I did not walk across one snow patch in 230 miles. Half of the springs were dry South of Mr. Whitney. Mt. Rainier had more water than the entire state of California. We are currently getting bailed out of our drought conditions by this series of storms. But there will be dry years in the future equal to, or worse than 2007. With California's uncontrolled population growth the demand for water will only get more intense.

In closing, we need a realistic plan based on current water conditions. The Monterey Plus Environmental Impact Report should not be approved. Please reject this plan. As a native Californian for 59 years, I know we can do better and must do better to maintain the health of our ecosystems and open landscapes, landscapes that developers want to fill with houses including the flood plain in Sierra Valley. We must conserve our farmland and support local farmers.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Wormington  
Sierra Valley  
Feather River Watershed

cc